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BULLETIN
OF THE
TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB.

Vol. XV.]

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[No. 4.]

New or Noteworthy North American Phanerogams.—I.

BY N. L. BRITTON.

Plate LXXX.

Aquilegia Canadensis, L., var. FLAVIFLORA, n. var. (*A. flaviflora*, Tenney, Amer. Nat., i., 389). On the 15th of May, 1866, Prof. Sanborn Tenney, of Vassar College, found a yellow-flowered Columbine on the high ground west of the Hudson, and opposite the city of Poughkeepsie, which he described in the first volume of the American Naturalist as *Aquilegia flaviflora*. On May 17th of the succeeding year he collected the same variety near the same place, and proposed to try to raise the plant from the seed. Of his farther observations I find no record.

On May 24, 1885, during a Club Field Excursion at Seabright, Monmouth County, New Jersey, the plant was found in considerable abundance on the south bank of the Navesink River, along the top of a bluff some twenty feet above the water level. It grew there with the ordinary red-flowered, typical form, with which its showy flowers formed a marked and beautiful contrast, both being remarkably luxuriant. Associated with them was *Cerastium arvense*, L., and near by grew *Smilacina stellata*, Desf., neither of which had been noted so far south along the coast. I removed a plant of the yellow *Aquilegia* to a garden where it has since bloomed every year, maintaining its character. I have not been able to detect any other differences between it and the type except that the whole plant is of a light yellowish green instead of the usual reddish purple hue of the young plants of the ordinary form.

CERASTIUM TEXANUM, n. sp. Stem slender, 15-20 cm. high, pilose, especially towards the base, branching dichotomously

above; leaves two to four pairs on the lower part of the stem, spatulate with an acute apex, sparingly pilose on both surfaces, 8-15 mm. long, 3-4 mm. wide; flowers few, small, terminating the branches; calyx lobes ovate, acute, 4-5 mm. long, nerved, minutely hairy; petals apparently linear, slightly longer; capsule about 7 mm. long, its ten teeth revolute; seeds numerous, angular, roughened with minute points.

Habitat: "Hills, Blanco, March, April," C. Wright, Mexican Boundary Survey Collections, No. 69.

This very distinct species is represented in the Torrey Herbarium by half a dozen fragments, and does not appear to have been distributed. It adds another member to the section *Streptocarpus*, and seems nearest to *C. pilosum*.

Astilbe decandra, D. Don, var. *CRENATILOBA*, n. var. Leaflets obtuse, crenate, mucronate, the upper one somewhat three-lobed; follicles about 2 mm. long, ovate; calyx lobes obtuse. Collected on the slope of Roan Mt., East Tennessee, along the trail from "Cloudland" to the Roan Mt. station of the E. T. & W. N. C. R. R.

The plant differs markedly from the typical *Astilbe decandra* in its shorter and stouter pods and blunt crenate leaves. It may be more than a mere variety, but I do not feel warranted in describing it as a species. The fact of collection is noted in this BULLETIN, Vol. xiii, p. 74.

Juncus filipendulus, Buckley, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., 1862, p. 8. (*J. Buckleyi*, Engelm., Trans. Acad. Sci. St. Louis, iii., p. 435; *J. leptocaulis*, Torr., apud Engelm., l. c., p. 454.)

Mr. Buckley's name has distinct priority over Dr. Engelmann's and should be restored. The plant was collected in 1887 by Mr. Nealley.

CYPERUS MARTINDALEI, n. sp. Culms erect, very slender, smooth, 50 to 60 cm. high; leaves very narrowly linear, nearly smooth with a prominent midrib, about half the length of the culm; involucre of about 3 leaves, 4 to 10 cm. long, the longest overtopping the inflorescence; umbel of a sessile head of numerous spikes and 1 to 3 smaller heads on slender peduncles; spikes linear, about seven-flowered; scales ovate, obtusish, about nine-nerved; achenium linear-oblong, triangular, about 1 mm. long,

acute. Bases of the culms hard and corm-like, as in *C. strigosus*, L.; rootstocks very slender, with delicate scales.

Florida, from the herbarium of Dr. Ferdinand Rugel now incorporated with that of I. C. Martindale, an enthusiastic collector and patron of botany, for whom the species is named. Collected also by Chapman at Appalachicola, and marked in his herbarium at Columbia College, as *C. ovularis*, Torr., with which it has but little affinity. In habit it resembles *C. filiculmis*, Vahl.

CYPERUS ECHINATUS (Ell.) (*Mariscus echinatus*, Ell., Sk., i, 75, 1821; *Cyperus Baldwinii*, Torr., Ann. Lyc., iii., 270, 1836.) This species, not hitherto reported from beyond the limits of the United States, though from its collection by the botanists of the Mexican Boundary Survey, and by Buckley in the Valley of the Rio Grande, we may suspect its occurrence in northern Mexico, comes now from Jamaica (J. Hart, No. 1034.)

Var. MULTIFLORA (Chapm.), n. var. Spikelets ten to even twenty five-flowered, the latter elongated to 20-25 mm. (*C. Baldwinii*, var. *multiflora*, Chapm., in Torr. Herb.)

Cyperus ferax, Richard. Not reported from Mexico nor Central America, in Hemsley's Botany of the Biologia Centrali-Americanae is 1980, 1979 Müller from Orizava, 438 Bernouilli from Mazatenango, Guatemala, and also from Chihuahua (E. Wilkenson, in Herb., J. Donnell Smith.)

Cyperus ochraceus, Vahl, is also omitted from the Botany of the Biologia. It appears to be quite widely distributed, however, having been collected by Botteri, as already noted by me, and is represented in Müller's collections from Orizava by Nos. 1981 and 1982, and was collected by Türckheim at Coban, Guatemala, in 1887, and distributed by Capt. J. Donnell Smith as No. 1262.

Cyperus humilis, Kunth, var. ELATIOR, n. var. Culms erect, 12 to 15 cm. high; cauline leaves about equalling the culm; those of the involucre about 3, the longest 15 cm. in length. Otherwise nearly as in the type, which we have in *C. Wright*, Plantæ Cubanæ, No. 700.

Collected by H. von Türckheim, on the river-bank, near Coban, Guatemala (Distr. J. Donnell Smith, No. 705).

WEBSTERIA SUBMERSA (Sauvalle.) (*Scirpus submersus*,

Sauv., Flor. Cubana, p. 176 (1868); *W. limnophila*, S. Hart Wright, BULL. TORR. CLUB, xiv, p. 135 (1887).

When examining the specimens of this plant kindly sent me by Mr. Wright, in June, 1887, I was much occupied with other matters and failed to recognize them as the same as Charles Wright's No. 3775, which had already received a name as cited above. I do not question the validity of the genus established by him, but would suggest its nearer affinity to *Heleocharis*, as indicated by Sauvalle, than to *Dulichium*, as supposed by Mr. Wright.

Heleocharis Engelmanni, Steud., Syn. 79. This species was described from specimens collected by Dr. Engelmann, at St. Louis, Mo., and labelled by him: "*E. obtusa*, Schult? var. *setis brevioribus*." It has an elongated, sub-cylindrical, often acutish spike and bristles only about the length of the achenium, or even shorter. In looking over a quite extensive suite of specimens of *Heleocharis ovata* (Roth), R. Br. (*H. obtusa*, Schultes), I find considerable variation in the relative lengths of bristles and achenium, while many which would fall under *H. ovata* through this character have heads elongated. The specimens most nearly according with Steudel's description of *H. Engelmanni* are from St. Louis (Engelmann, Riehl), Oquawka, Illinois (Patterson), (the var. *detonsa*, Gray), Tinicum, Delaware Co., Penn. (Porter) and "hills in Waltham, Mass.," (B. D. Greene) the last being the *H. obtusa*, var. β , Torrey, Ann. Lyc., iii., 303. The material at command indicates that Steudel's species is a variety of the widespread *H. ovata*, as remarked by Dr. Watson, in Bot. Cal., ii, p. 222, but more material is needed to settle this beyond dispute. The *Eleocharis diandra*, C. Wright, in BULL. TORR. CLUB, x., p. 101, seems clearly to belong here, and was so placed by Dr. Gray in Bot. Gaz., iii., p. 81, before Mr. Wright's description was published.

DICHROMENA CEPHALOTES (Walt.) (*Scirpus cephalotes*, Walt., Flor. Car., p. 71 (1788); *D. leucocephala*, Michx., Flor. Bor. Am., i, p. 37 (1803).)

Dichromena pubera, Vahl. Specimens collected by Dr. Watson in Guatemala (No. 166 a) are markedly proliferous, after the manner of some other sedges, the peduncles rooting at their apices.

DICHROMENA WATSONI, n. sp. Culm stout, sulcate, nearly smooth, 40 to 50 cm. high; leaves of the stem about 5, 15 to 20 cm. long, 5 to 7 mm. wide at the base, tapering to an acute apex, about seven-nerved, the nerves impressed on the upper surface and prominent on the lower; leaves of the involucre about nine, resembling those of the stem; spikes about nine, acute, 12 to 15 mm. long, sessile, forming a capitate cluster at the summit of the culm; scales ovate-lanceolate, acute and mucronate with the excurrent tip of the mid-nerve; achenium obovate, much shorter than the scale, transversely rugose, tipped with a broad, depressed tubercle; style very slender, two-cleft.

A remarkably large species, the cauline leaves arising from loose sheaths, and those of the involucre differing from other species of the genus in being green to their bases.

Collected by Dr. Sereno Watson in Guatemala, February to April, 1885 (No. 153.)

Dichromena nivea, Bœckl., under *Rhynchospora nivea*, Bœckl., Linnæa, xxxvii., p. 528 (1871.) (*D. diphylla*, Torr., Herb. and l. c.; *D. Reverchonii*, S. Hart Wright, BULL. TORR. CLUB, ix., p. 86 (1882.)

Although this plant was collected by Lindheimer in Texas, as long ago as 1847, and known to Dr. Torrey about that time, I cannot find any publication of his name until Bœckeler's paper above cited. It does not appear in the published lists of Lindheimer's collections. Bœckler, referring it to the genus *Rhynchospora*, gave it another name, citing Torrey's as a synonym. It appears to me that this is ample publication and that the later name of Mr. Wright cannot stand. As regards the names of Bœckeler and Torrey, both are cited as manuscript synonyms by the former, with *D. nivea* one line before *D. diphylla*—a nice point in nomenclature but sufficient for priority. The species is represented by Lindheimer's No. 718, Berlandier's 2089, Reverchon's 1233, and by a specimen collected by Wright, all from Texas. Also from Arkansas (Beyrich, Leavenworth.)

PSILOCARYA NITENS (Vahl.) (*Scirpus nitens*, Vahl, Enum. Pl., ii., 272 (1806); *P. rhynchosporoides*, Torr., Ann. Lyc. N. Y., iii., p. 361 (1836); *Rhynchospora nitens*, Gray.)

The relationship of this species to the *P. scirpoides*, Torr.,

cannot yet be regarded as established. True *P. nitens* has a transversely rugose achenium and a short tubercle; true *P. scirpoides* a smooth or but slightly rugose achenium and a long tubercle. A specimen in Herb. Torrey, collected by Leavenworth in East Florida and written up by Dr. Torrey as *P. intermedia*, has a strongly rugose achenium and a tubercle intermediate in length, indicating that they may all be but forms of one species, to which Vahl's specific name must be applied. *P. Texensis*, Torr. & Hook., seems not much more distinct than the others. The fourth member of the genus (*P. corymbiformis* (Wright), Benth. & Hook., Gen. Pl., iii., 1048; *Scirpus corymbiformis*, Wright, in Sauvalle Flor. Cubana, 176), has much more claim to specific rank.

Fimbristylis capillaris (L.), Gray, must include a large number of forms differing slightly in the amount of bearding at the mouths of the sheaths, the acute or obtuse apices of the scales and the size, markings and color of the nut. Besides the synonymy cited in Hemsley's *Biologia*, we must add *Isolepis ciliatifolia*, Torr., which appears hardly separable even as a variety, while the following may perhaps stand as varieties or marked forms:

Var. *PILOSA*, n. var. Culms densely pilose throughout; scales dark brown, acute. (Guatemala, Santa Rosa, Türkckheim, 1887, No. 1283; Orizava, Müller, 1853, No. 1966.)

Var. *COARCTATA* (Ell.) (*Isolepis coarctata*, Torr.) Umbels contracted; spikes linear-oblong.

Fimbristylis Vahlîi, Link., Hort. Berol., i, 287, is the older name for *F. congesta*, Torr., Ann. Lyc., iii., p. 345, as noted by Boeckeler, Linnæa, xxxvii., p. 9.

Fimbristylis monostachya (Vahl), Hassk., Pl. Jav. Rar., p. 61 (1848), is the name for *Abilgaardia monostachya*, Vahl, following Benthham and Hooker in reducing the genus to *Fimbristylis*.

Fimbristylis schænoïdes, Vahl., has been collected by A. H. Curtiss, in Walton Co., Florida, as I have recently been informed by Dr. Watson. I do not find any record of its occurrence otherwise nearer than southern Asia, but there is a marked tropical distribution of Cyperaceæ of which this is perhaps only another example.

SCIRPUS PRINGLEI, n. sp. Annual, cæspitose, 1 to 2 inches high. Leaves capillary, all radical, about equalling the culm; spikes terminal and also radical, the latter surrounded and much overtopped by the leaves; terminal spikes oval, many-flowered, the lowest bract resembling the leaves, and an inch or so in length, the next 3-6 mm., the others lanceolate, very acute, about 2 mm. long, midribs slightly darker than the margins, every bract fertile; achenia sharply trigonal, broadly obovoid, the angles slightly ridged, the summit truncate, style three-cleft, its base persistent, stamens two. Basal spikes fewer flowered, otherwise nearly as the upper ones. Whole plant yellowish green.

Chihuahua, near Guerrero, C. G. Pringle, 1887, Nos. 1400 and 1399, the latter specimens without terminal spikes.

An interesting little species related to *S. heterocarpus*, *S. Wats.*, which was also collected by Mr. Pringle at the same place (No. 1398), and in aspect resembling *Fimbristylis apus* (Gray), *Wats.* *S. heterocarpus*, is, however, coarser, its terminal spikes longer and narrower and dark brown; the achenia of its basal spikes twice as large as those of the upper. The two species form a marked group of the genus. *S. heterocarpus* is also now to be admitted into the United States lists, having been collected by Mr. Pringle, Aug. 29, 1884, on sandy plains south of Tucson, Arizona, near the Mexican boundary. Its range is also to be extended to the Bolivian Andes, Mandon's No. 1410 being referable to the species, differing only in the slightly coarser surface markings of the achenium.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE LXXX.

Fig. 1. *Scirpus Pringlei*, Britton, plant natural size; Fig. 2. Upper spikelet, X 2; Fig. 3. Pistil, X 8; Fig. 4. Achenium, X 8.

Fig. 5. *Scirpus heterocarpus*, Watson, plant natural size. Fig. 6. Upper spikelet, X 2. Fig. 7. Achenium, lower spikelet, X 8, swollen in water; when dry it is slightly shorter and broader. Fig. 8. Style and stigma, upper spikelet, X 8. Fig. 9. Achenium, upper spikelet, X 8. Fig. 10. Scale, upper spikelet, X 8.

Scirpus mucronatus, L. This old world species was collected over twenty years ago in Delaware County, Penn., by Mr. C. E. Smith and Dr. Geo. Smith, and appears to have since lain unnoticed in our herbaria, which is to a certain degree my own

fault, for there is a specimen in the Torrey Herbarium dating back to 1864. Mr. Smith has sent me the following note on the locality: "It is in a small patch of *Sphagnum* in a field, 300 feet above tide-water." Mr. Martindale has it from the ballast grounds at Camden, but there seems no doubt that the Delaware County plant is a native. It is not quite as stout as the plants from Asia and Mauritius, but agrees very well with French specimens in Herb. Torrey.

Scirpus stenophyllus, Ell. (*Isolepis stenophylla*, Torr.), appears to be a true *Scirpus*, and is nearly related to *S. barbatus*, Rottb., to which it has been referred by Bœckeler, Linnæa, xxxvi., p. 792, as var. *Americanus*. It seems to me specifically distinct, but if reducible to a variety of Rottboll's species, a result by no means impossible when more material is obtained, it must bear Elliott's name.

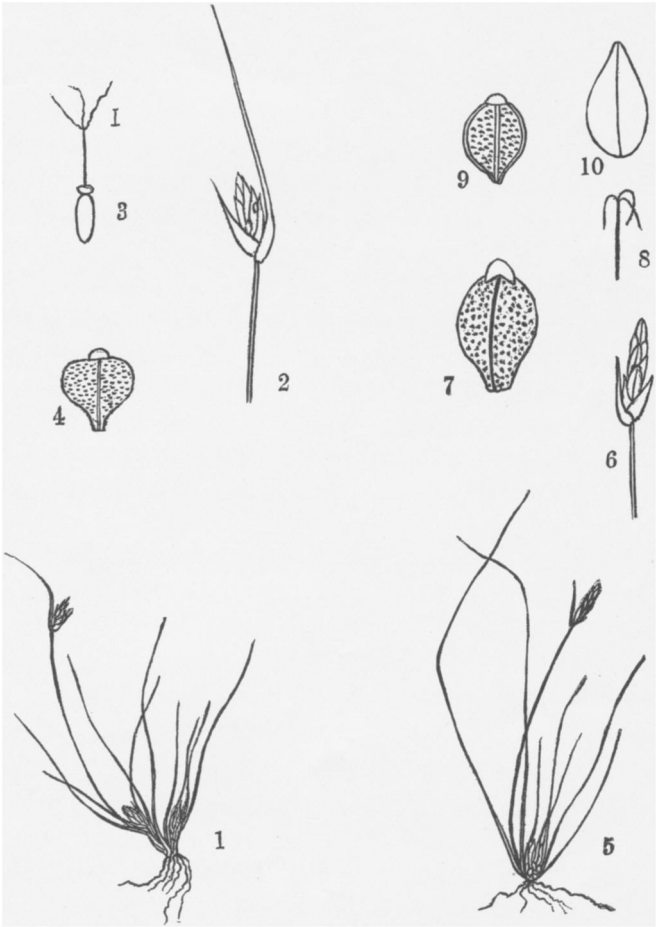
HEMICARPHA MICRANTHA (Vahl.) (*Scirpus micranthus*, Vahl, Enum. Pl., ii., 254 (1806); *H. subsquarrosa*, Nees, in Mart. Flor. Bras., ii., Pars. i., p. 61 (1842).)

RHYNCHOSPORA AXILLARIS (Lam.) (*Schœnus axillaris*, Lam., Encyc., i., 137 (1791); *R. cephalantha*, Gray, Ann. Lyc., N. Y., iii., 218 (1836).)

In taking up the name I am guided by Bœckeler in Linnæa, xxxvii., p. 572, who states that he saw a specimen named by Lamarck in Willdenow's Herbarium.

SCLERIA GRAMINIFOLIA, n. sp. Culms 35 to 40 cm. high, slender, erect, triangular in section; leaves 3 or 4, 12-15 cm. long, all cauline, narrowly linear, attenuate to an acute apex, the upper reaching to the inflorescence but not overtopping it; panicle terminal, loose and quite simple, 4 to 5 cm. long, subtended by a linear bract, 2 to 6 cm. long; heads androgynous, sessile, or on peduncles 1 to 2 cm. long, of from 2 to 5 flowers, the fertile and sterile about equal in number. Achenium globular, 2 mm. in diameter, obtuse, minute apiculate, roughened, with short projecting processes, supported on a triangular perigynium, whose angles are prolonged upwards as ridges nearly to the apex of the achenium. Rootstocks fibrous.

Collected by C. G. Pringle in wet places, pine barrens, base of the Sierra Madre, Chihuahua, Sept. 28, 1887 (No. 1401.)



Scirpus Pringlei, Britton. | *Scirpus heterocarpus*, Watson.